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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Yoshiro YAMAGUCHI et al.

Group Art Unit: 2674

Application No.: 09/940,801

Examiner: Duc Q. Dinh

Filed: August 29, 2001

Docket No.: 110491

For: IMAGE DISPLAY MEDIUM, IMAGE DISPLAY DEVICE, AND IMAGE DISPLAY METHOD

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the November 1, 2004 Office Action, reconsideration of the above-identified application is respectfully requested. Claims 1-18 are pending.

The Office Action objects to claim 8 asserting that the "plural colors" in line 2 has insufficient antecedent basis. However, claim 1 recites "a filter of plural colors for transmitting light." Thus, sufficient antecedent basis for "plural colors" in claim 8 exists. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the objection be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-8 and 10-13 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Gordon II (U.S. Patent No. 6,271,823) in view of Hou (U.S. Patent No. 6,113,810); claims 14-18 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Gordon II and Hou, and further in view of Komiskey (U.S. Patent No. 6,376,828); and claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Gordon II and Hou and further in view of Shirochi (U.S. Patent No. 5,872,654). The rejections are respectfully traversed.

In particular, none of the applied references disclose or suggest an image display medium including at least a filter of plural colors for transmitting light of a specific wavelength, the filter formed on an opposite side of a display substrate from an electrode, as recited in independent claim 1, and similarly recited in independent claim 18.

Gordon discloses in Figs. 1a-b that the display cell includes a red filter element 30 in cell 14, a green filter element 32 in cell 16 and a blue filter element 34 in cell 18. See column 7, lines 5-12. These light-transmissive filter elements 30, 32 and 34 are respectively located across the lower surface of the front window 2, between the front window 2 and the counter electrode 20, and are in lateral adjacency in a plane with each other. Thus, the filter elements 30, 32 and 34 and the counter electrode 20 are located on a same side of the front window 2.

Hou discloses a dielectric dispersion for use in an electrophoretic display.

Komiskey discloses an illumination system for selectively illuminating a non-emissive electronic display.

Shirachi discloses a picture display apparatus provided with a display device having pixels disposed in a mosaic pattern.

In contrast to the claimed invention, none of the applied references disclose or suggest at least that the filter is formed on an opposite side of the display substrate from an electrode. On the contrary, nowhere in the applied references is this feature disclosed or suggested. Instead, Gordon discloses that the filter elements and the electrode are located on a same side of the front window.

Because the applied references fail to disclose these features, any resulting device would not have provided an inexpensive image display medium which has high light fastness, high heat resistance and simple structure, and is capable of displaying a multi-colored image with high contrast that is readily adjustable for color. Moreover, any combination of the applied references would not have resulted in an image display medium that encloses

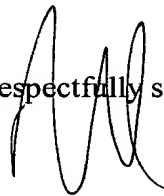
particles differing in color and charging polarity so that air is enclosed therein, includes an inner state of the medium which is a vacuum and includes a color filter because Gordon discloses an electrophoresis image display medium that includes particles enclosed together with a liquid.

Accordingly, based on the discussion above, it would not have been obvious to combine the applied references to arrive at the claimed invention. Thus, it is respectfully requested that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-18 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: January 26, 2005

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